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A Case Report of Physical Therapy for a Patient with Bilateral Lower-Extremity Amputation due to Burns

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to describe the ambulation levels of patients with bilateral lower–extremity amputations, especially those with above and below knee amputations due to burns. A patient with such a condition and the course of physical therapy used are descibed and discussed. It was found that many factors, such as the patient's skin condition and joint instability influenced the level of ambulation. Fragility of the skin in weight bearing areas such as the patellar tendon and the ischial tubercle, central migration of the artificial femoral head and inflamed knee joints were the main problems. Considering these problems, a conventional type of socket for the below knee amputation and plug fitting socket with a pelvic band and hip joint for the above knee amputation were prescribed. Range of motion and muscle strengthening exercise were also carried out carefully. It was concluded that the prescription of a proper prosthesis and careful therapy were very important for these patients.